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House.

ALREADY the reciprocity provisions of

the McKinley tariff act have opened up

the markets of 15,000,000 people to the

American farmer and manufacturer.

The President will spend all of to-day

and part of to-morrow in Texas. Three

hours, from 9 o'clock A. M. till noon to-

day, will be given to San Antonio, and

two hours to-morrow to El Paso.

A BILL has been introduced in the

Massachusetts Legislature to provide

for the erection by the State of a statue

of the late General and Judge Charles

Devens. His record as a soldier and

citizen entitles him to the honor. He

was a gallant officer and an able, up-

right judge.

When election inspectors fail to re-

turn tally-sheets, or in any way neglect

to comply with the election law, as did

the Democratic inspectors in Evansville,

why are they not prosecuted and made

to suffer the penalties of the law? This

is one thing to which Republican com-

mittees should attend.

SECRETARY FOSTER will take mea-

sures to prevent the importation of pau-

pers and criminals into this country via

Canada. For years England's assisted

and other pauper immigrants have

reached us by landing in Canada and

coming over the border by the railroads.

It will cost money to carry out the work,

but it will be money well spent.

The Democratic members of the New

York Senate are desperately resisting

the passage of a resolution to investi-

gate the management of the canal

under Governor Hill's regime. Grave

charges have been made by prominent

persons, but the Governor seems to be

afraid to have the light turned on. The

Cleveland papers are very anxious that

it should be.

It is reliably reported that Speaker

Niblack, who was a member of the com-

mittee on resolutions of the alleged Kan-

sas City commercial congress, voted

against the free-silver element. This

may astonish Mr. Voorhees, but it indi-

cates that the Cleveland idea of hostility

to free coinage is leaving the Demo-

cratic loup of Indiana, which, at the last

State convention, declared for free and

unrestricted coinage.

The United States government should

ask Italy to file a specific claim for in-

demnity. Let it give the names, occu-

pations and antecedents of the alleged

Italian subjects killed at New Orleans,

with the amount claimed for each. Then

let it submit proof of its claim. The

presumption of law is that, living in the

United States, they were naturalized

American citizens. The burden of proof

is on Italy to show that they were not.

She should be asked to file a bill of

particulars.

The Farmers' Club, of Rush county,

at a recent meeting, discussed a resolu-

tion "that the acts of the recent session

of the Legislature affecting the farming

interests were positively injurious, and

should meet with the decided disappro-

bation of all farmers." Nearly all of the

speakers agreed that the record of the

Legislature was, on its face, very un-

favorable to farmers. The points

particularly dwelt upon were the failure

to abolish old offices, the creation of a

large number of new ones, the heavy

increase of individual taxes and the

large reduction in those of corporations.

EX-SECRETARY BAYARD, who has had

a good deal of domestic affliction in

late years, is said to be quite prostrated

by the recent sudden death of his son-

in-law, Count Lowenhaupt. He has

offered for sale his residence in Wash-

ington, and will probably disappear

from public life. The State of Dela-

ware will hardly know itself without a

member of the Bayard family in office.

The founder of the family, James Ash-

When elected he will feel that the oppo-

sition of the government has absolved

him from any obligation to support the

Emperor's policy, and will probably be-

come the leader of its opponents.

RECIPROcity WITH CUBA.

The announcement that Gen. John W.

Foster, acting as the representative of

the administration, has made a commer-

cial treaty with Spain which will afford

better trade facilities to our people is

another triumph of the Republican policy

as laid down in the present tariff act.

In some respects a reciprocal arrange-

ment with Cuba would be more im-

portant than with most of our neighbors.

It has not the population of Brazil; but

restrictions taken from the trade of a

population equal to that of our own

State, at our doors, so to speak, is a

matter of no little consequence. Cuba

specially needs our flour, meats and

other food products, the trade in which

has been very much restricted by duties

not less than 100 per cent, chiefly for the

reason that Spain itself desires to fur-

nish Cuba with breadstuffs. The provi-

sions of the treaty which General Foster

has negotiated have not been made

public, but it is known that the duties

fixed upon flour and other articles are

very low. We have always bought

vastly more of Cuba than she has pur-

chased of us. We have for years taken

the bulk of her sugar. In 1889 Cuba sold

us \$2,130,000 worth of goods and bought

in return only \$1,691,000. In 1890 our

imports from Cuba were \$23,500,000, and

our exports in return but \$13,084,000. It

stands to reason that when our products

have an advantage in the Cuban market,

our flour, meat and the products of our

manufactories will reduce that very

large adverse trade balance. In this

connection it is fair to add that this trade

arrangement could not have been made

with Spain for Cuba's trade but for the

provision in the present tariff law which

empowers the President to impose a duty

on sugar, etc., in the event that those

nations to which we have opened our

markets for sugar, free of duty, reciprocate

by extending to the United States some

corresponding advantage in trade.

That feature of the tariff law, it may be

emphasized, is the one upon which the

President and Secretary Blaine strenu-

ously insisted, and which was secured

very largely by their influence. Its suc-

cess is one of the strong features of the

administration.

THE STATE DEBT AND TAXATION.

The large increase of taxation which

the people of this State will have to

meet during the next few years is ex-

citing general interest in the financial

condition of the State, and frequent in-

quiry as to the history and origin of the

State debt, and the responsibility for

its growth. As the debt is the cause of

the increased taxation it becomes im-

portant to ascertain who is responsible

for the debt. To meet the demand for

this information the following facts,

compiled from official sources, are pre-

sented:

At the close of Governor Wright's ad-

ministration, in 1837, the State debt, as

reported by H. E. Talbot, then Auditor

of State, was \$7,783,311. Three years

later, in October, 1840, just before the

close of the Willard administration, Mr.

John W. Dodd, Democratic Auditor of

State, reported the debt as \$10,179,367.09.

The report of Dodd, in 1840, as compared

with that of Talbot, in 1837, both Demo-

crats, showed an increase of the debt

during three years of Democratic ad-

ministration of \$2,396,056.09.

In 1840 the Republicans carried the

State, and the Lane-Morton administra-

tion began Jan. 14, 1841. There had been

no reduction of the debt since Auditor

Dodd's last report. The Republicans

therefore inherited from the last Demo-

cratic administration the debt reported

by him of \$10,179,367.09. The war of

the rebellion, which began about this

time, added nearly \$3,000,000 to the debt.

To be exact, it added \$2,904,875.33. This

was caused by war-loan bonds issued

for war purpose and by the State's quota

of the direct tax levied by Congress in

1861. The war loan was authorized by

the Legislature, in 1861, to place the

State in a condition to resist invasion

and enable her to do her part in the

suppression of the rebellion. Owing to

this increase of the State debt it reached,

in 1862, the high-water mark of \$13,084,-

142.42. But of this \$10,179,367.09 had

been inherited from a Democratic ad-

ministration.

During the next ten years the Repub-

licans reduced the debt \$9,146,331.42. In

proof of this we cite Democratic author-

ity. The last annual report of Hon. John

C. Shoemaker, dated Oct. 31, 1871, showed

the debt to be \$3,884,830.88. (See

page 25 of the report.) It had been re-

duced to this sum from \$13,084,142.42

by successive Republican administrations.

During the next ten years the debt was

increased to \$4,876,008.

The tax levy, which had been 25 cents

on the \$100, was reduced in 1871 to 15

cents, in 1873 to 5 cents, raised in 1875 to

15 cents, and reduced again in 1877 to

12 cents, where it remained until last

year. These low tax levies, made by

the Democrats to win popular applause

and catch votes, were the primary cause

of the debt increase which has taken

place during the last fifteen years. A

tax levy of 15 cents was not sufficient

for State purposes. It did not furnish

enough revenue. The reduction to 5

cents, at which it stood for two years,

was a bare-faced fraud. It was finally

placed at 12 cents, which was still much

too low. Along with this inadequate

tax levy the Democrats inaugurated the

policy of borrowing money to meet cur-

rent expenses. Revenue had to be raised

in some way, and as they refused to

raise it by taxation, there was no other

recourse but borrowing. The credit of

the State was good, and capitalists were

only too ready to lend. The bonds they

got were a blank mortgage on every

acre of land in the State. This borrow-

ing process was easy and tempt-

ing, and the longer it was continued

the more fascinating it became. Once

embarked on that course, the Democrats

had not the moral courage or political

honesty to break off. The result was an

immense increase of the State debt.

From 1884 to 1889 the debt increased

from \$4,908,178 to \$8,540,615, every dol-

lar of the increase being due to Demo-

cratic legislation and financing. In

other words, it was due to the Demo-

cratic policy of borrowing money, at

interest, to pay current expenses and

creating a large deficit each year to be

made good by borrowing more money.

The increase of the debt during the last

five years has been steady, continuous,

and rapid. The last report of Auditor

Carr showed it to be \$8,540,615.13,

and it is considerably more now. It will

continue to increase during this year

and next.

Thus the record shows that during

the last thirty years the Democratic

party has invariably increased the debt

when it had power, while the Republi-

can party has invariably reduced it. One

is a debt-making, and the other a

debt-paying party. The present State

debt is essentially of Democratic crea-

tion.

At last, when driven by stress of cir-

cumstances and the force of public op-

inion to change its policy and make some

provision for reducing the debt it had

created, what did the Democratic party

do? It refused to increase the taxes on

saloons, refused to increase the taxes on

railroads, reduced the taxes on sleep-

ing-car companies, express companies,

telegraph companies and telephone com-

panies from 50 to 80 per cent., increased

the general tax levy 50 per cent., and re-

quired all property to be assessed for

taxation at its actual, full cash value.

Having loaded the people down with

debt by years of incompetent financ-

ing, it only recognized its duty to pro-

vide for a reduction of the debt at last

by taxing the people to death with one

hand, while it protects saloons, corpora-

tions and monopolies with the other.

This is no theory that confronts the peo-

ple; it is a condition.

STREET-RAILWAY FRANCHISES.

The petition of the Citizens' Street-

railway Company for a new franchise is

by far the most important matter that

has yet come before the Board of Public

Works, or that is likely to come before

it during its present term of office. It is

to be hoped that the board and the Coun-

cil will deal just as equitably and just as

promptly with the Citizens' as they have

with the Broad Ripple company. What

the people of Indianapolis want is rapid

transit and plenty of it, and they want it

as quickly as possible. What companies

give it is not a matter of much impor-

tance; the thing is to get fast lines, and

get them upon the best possible terms

for the city and the people that are con-

sistent with a fair return upon the in-

vestments made in such enterprises.

The people do not take much stock in

the demagogic cry against a corpora-

tion simply because it is a corporation.

If the Citizens' company is willing to

give up its old franchise for a new one

that is fairer to the people in its terms

and more valuable to the company in the

length of time it has to run, there

should be no trouble in coming to an

early agreement that will prove of great

benefit to both.

The man who compares the street-

railway service of Indianapolis now with

what it was before the present company

took hold of it cannot deny that it

has been vastly improved. The new

and clean cars, with open cars in sum-

mer, the extension of the lines to

all parts of the city, as well as

to Irvington, Brightwood, Hang-

ville and West Indianapolis, and the

splendid electric line on Illinois street,

all are improvements for which the com-

pany should receive due credit. The

equipment of all its lines with

electricity and their further ex-

tension would be of inestimable ben-

efit to the city in the expansion of its

territory and the accommodation of its

people.

The first franchise contract drawn by

the Board of Public Works is regarded

by the people as a very fair and satis-

factory one. If it makes as fair an

agreement with the Citizens' company,

and does it without unnecessary delay,

it can do more good than can be accom-

plished with a dozen suburban fran-

chises.

A DEMOCRATIC SIDE-SHOW.

Those who were sufficiently familiar

with the interests which devised and

shaped the so-called commercial con-

gress in Kansas City, last week, to know

their animus, are not surprised that it

turned out to be a Democratic, free-

trade, free-silver-conclave. On the

contrary, they are surprised that the

able Democratic politicians, free-

traders, and free-coinage advocates,

who laid the pipes and controlled the

organization, did not have entire con-

trol of the meeting. The wonder is that

there were enough men opposed to the

Democratic policy of free trade and

free coinage to make any sort of a con-

test. That, on the ballot when the

largest number of delegates voted, be-

fore the meeting was adjourned from

the opera-house to a smaller hall, a

majority should vote for a moderate

protection resolution is more a wonder.

That resolution, presented by Gen. A. J.

Warner, of Ohio, a Democrat, as a com-

promise, reads as follows:

We favor neither free trade nor ex-

clusion of trade, but favor a tariff for

revenue limited to the actual needs of government

economically administered, but so levied

as to cover differences in industrial con-

ditions between this and other countries,

but not to create nor foster monopolies.

The above was offered as a substitute

for the tariff resolutions presented by

both the majority and the minority of

the committee. Mr. Smalley, represent-

ing the minority, which reported for

protection, accepted this compromise,

and, after a long and exciting de-

bate, it was adopted by a vote of 87 to

75, and was so declared by the presiding

officer. The convention was then com-

pelled to vacate the opera-house and

adjourn to a smaller hall. Many of the

delegates, says the Kansas City Journal,

particularly the Republicans, disgusted

with the wrangle, which had lasted

hours, did not go to the smaller hall.

When the session was resumed the

free-traders raised the point that

the resolution had been substituted only

for the minority resolution, and that its

adoption did not make it a part of the

resolutions of the congress. Governor

Francis, the presiding officer, a free-trader,

ruled that the

point was not well taken, and that the

resolution had been adopted. Then a

motion was made to reconsider, but

during the wrangle quite a number of

delegates withdrew in disgust from

what they denounced as a Democratic

conclave, whereupon the motion to re-

consider was carried by a vote of 76 to 65—

or by eleven less votes than the Warner

resolution received on its adoption.

Then, when more members had left, the

free-trade resolution was adopted by a

vote of 76 to 49 on a call of States. Of

the whole number of votes Missouri

gave 27 and Kansas 28, the former giv-

ing as many votes for the free-trade

resolution as Kansas did against it, 20.

Of the 76 votes for the free-trade

resolution, the Southern States gave 43

and Oklahoma 5—leaving 28 votes for

the Northern States and Ter-

ritories represented in the combina-

tion. The Southern States gave 9 of the

49 votes against the free-trade

resolution. In view of the fact that the

free-traders laid the wires for a free-

trade convention and invited free-

traders to make the leading speeches,

they cannot be specially gratified by the

result, particularly when it is a matter

of record that the highest vote on the

issue between the protective idea and

free trade was for protection. The Kan-

sas City Journal, commenting upon the

result of the meeting, says:

But we can in no sense be bound by the

alleged findings of this alleged commercial

congress. Even more. We deny emphat-

ically that the conclave on the silver and

tariff reached by the members of the

convention who saw fit to vote represent

public sentiment in the great West. If

the people believed for a moment that

the propositions advanced in the silver

and tariff resolutions of this convention

could be forced upon the country next

December, the convention would go down in

history as preying a convulsion such as

has never been witnessed in the United

States. Happily these resolutions are only

expressions of opinion which will go to the

world to be judged as all other manifesta-

tions of wit, wisdom or folly.

NORTHERN Democratic papers that

have been so vehemently insisting that

the honors paid to President Harrison

by the South are tributes to the office

exclusively and not to the man, will not

be pleased by the language of the

Birmingham Age-Herald. That paper,

speaking in advance of the expected re-

ception, says: "We, the people, are

ourselves the sovereigns here, and in

honoring the man who has been made

head of the Nation, we but honor our-

selves and this great, free country. But

it is not to the President, in his official

capacity alone, that we extend a wel-

come; we also welcome Benjamin Har-

rison. . . . There is no politics in

Birmingham to-day. Democrats and

Republicans alike recognize in Mr. Har-

rison, personally considered, a gentle-

man above reproach and a member of a

distinguished and historic family, for

whom no American has any but the

kindest feeling. Let Birmingham put

on its holiday apparel to-day, and let

the welcome it gives be the warmest

extended throughout the tour of the

presidential party." Southern Democrats

are showing themselves to be not only

far less bigoted and illiberal than their

Northern brethren, but also more

courteous and gentlemanly. Some of

the bores of the party have strayed

into the Charleston News and Courier

office, but the majority are north of the

Ohio.

THE Republican League convention,

which will assemble in Cincinnati to-

morrow, promises to be one of the

largest and